THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The availability of sugar in the country has been more than the consumption since 1994-95 sugar season (October-September).

(c) and (d) The Government has taken decision to completely decontrol the sugar in a phased manner. In this regard, the levy obligation which was reduced from 40% to 30% with effect from 01-01-2000, has been further reduced to 15% with effect from 01-02-2001. As a step towards liberalization, the Government has decided to announce a quarterly free-sale quota in place of the existing monthly free-sale quota. Sugar factories have also been allowed to sell upto 10% of their quarterly free-sale quota over and above their normal quota within the quarter.

Government has also decided to introduce futures/forward trading in sugar which is a step necessary before effecting complete decontrol. Government has given in principle clearances to three proposed exchanges which are in the process of completing the procedural formalities to set up exchanges and to commence futures trading in sugar.

Allocation of foodgrains to Orissa

2631. SHRI ANANTHA SETHI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation of foodgrains to Orissa from the central pool during 2001.

(b) the month-wise/quarter-wise details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government has made any demand to enhance allocation of foodgrains to the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Month-wise details of foodgrains allocated to Orissa from central pool under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for families below poverty line (BPL),

families above poverty line (APL) and for Antyodaya families during year 2001 are as under :—

Rice

(in tonnes)

	BPL	APL	ANTYO-DAYA	TOTAL
January	65,955	3,720	0.00	69,675
February	65,955	3,720	0.00	69,675
March	65,955	3,720	0.00	69,675
April	65,955	3,720	0.00	69,675
May	65,955	3,720	0.00	69,675
June	65,955	3,720	0.00	69,675
July	82,444	3,720	0.00	86,164
August	82,444	3,720	0.00	86,164
September	69,806	3,720	12,638	86,164
October	69,806	3,720	12,638	86,164
November	69,806	3,720	12,638	86,164
December	69,806	3,720	12,638	86,164

Wheat

No allocation of wheat is being made to Orissa under TPDS as per choice of the State Government.

In addition, a quantity of 16,000 tonnes of rice and 4,100 tonnes of wheat per month was allotted to Government of Orissa at BPL rates for a period of three months from November, 2000 to January, 2001 for distribution to the drought affected families @ 20 kg. per family per month.

Food for Work

Government of Orissa has also been allotted a quantity of 2.50 lakh tonnes of rice free of cost for implementing food for work programmes in the drought affected areas in the State for from January, 2001 till date.

(c) to (e) Government of Orissa have requested for additional allocation of 9,947 tonnes of rice for BPL families in KBK Districts on the basis of census undertaken in 1997. The matter is under examination.